

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this Application and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-8, 11-15 and 18 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 11-13 and 15 are amended, all without the introduction of any new matter. Support for the amended claims can be found in the claims as originally filed, at least on page 13, lines 13-25.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 5, 6, 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Kim (U.S. Pat. No. 6,370,519); and Claims 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kim in view of Smith et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,084,951, herein "Smith").

Turning now to the outstanding §102 and §103 rejections based on Kim and Smith, Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, in part,

a plurality of graphic icons saved in hierarchical structures; and
a plurality of phone numbers respectively linked to the plurality of graphic icons on a one-to-one basis,
wherein the plurality of graphic icons form a graphic map, and
wherein the graphic map comprises a community configured by the graphic icons, and
wherein the electronic directory of phone numbers is constituted in the hierarchical structures.

Claims 5, 13 and 15 recite similar features.

Kim and Smith describe electronic directory of phone numbers with a limited number of functionally classified graphic icons which represent kinds of communication services related to a phone number. For example, the graphic icons described in both Kim and Smith

represent such things as fax, email, office telephone, pager or home telephone, etc.¹ See attached Illustration 1.

In contrast, the invention recited in Claim 1 describes that the directory of phone numbers is constituted in hierarchical structures. For example, the hierarchical structures are illustrated in Figure 1A through 1C of the present specification. For instance the district 2 in the 1st graphic map 100 includes community 3 in the 2nd graphic map 110 which includes graphic icon 130 in the 3rd graphic map 120. Further, the plurality of phone numbers respectively linked to the plurality of graphic icons is done on a one-to-one basis. Each of the graphic icons 130 is mapped to a phone number in, for example, one--to-one correspondence. Therefore a specific graphic icon is unique to a specific phone number. See Illustration 2.²

Thus Kim and Smith describe that phone numbers are saved with pre-defined finite kind of graphic icons which represent communication service, and a plurality of phone numbers match a pre-defined finite kind of graphic icons by multiple-to-one basis, while Claim 1 describes that icons and numbers are matched on a one-to-one basis. The system of Kim and Smith is illustrated, for example, referring to Illustration 1³, where the icon which is linked to Tom's office telephone number is the identical icon which is linked to James' office telephone number. Therefore a specific graphic icon is not unique to a specific phone number. Thus the systems of Kim and Smith are not analogous to the invention recited in Claim 1 in which the plurality of phone numbers are linked to the plurality of graphic icons on a one-to-one basis.

¹ See Figure 3 and col. 1 lines 40-45 of Kim and Figure 9 and col. 7, lines 41-48 of Smith.

² See page 10 below.

³ See page 10 below.

Accordingly, Kim does not disclose all of the features recited in Claim 1, thus Applicants respectfully submit independent Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 5, 13 and 15 patentably distinguish over Kim.

Further, Smith does not cure the above noted deficiencies of Kim in regard to the plurality of graphic icons that match the plurality of phone numbers on a one-to-one basis.

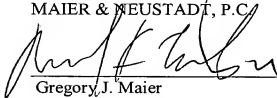
Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 5, 13 and 15 and dependent Claims depending therefrom, patentably distinguish over Kim and Smith considered alone or together in any proper combination.

In addition, Claim 4 recites that each of the graphic icons is updated according to a call history based on a phone number mapped thereto. Thus Claim 4 describes being able to update the graphic icons according to a call history based on a phone number mapped thereto but neither Kim nor Smith describe this feature. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that in addition to the distinguishing due to the above noted dependency, Claim 4 patentably distinguishes over Kim and Smith considered individually or in combination for at least the above noted reason.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

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